

PHARMACY BOARD[657]**Adopted and Filed**

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code sections 147.76 and 272C.2, the Board of Pharmacy hereby amends Chapter 2, “Pharmacist Licenses,” Iowa Administrative Code.

The amendments require that all pharmacists register with CPE Monitor, a service jointly developed, implemented, and maintained by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) and the Accreditation Council on Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE) for the purpose of recording and maintaining evidence of pharmacists’ successful completion of ACPE-accredited provider continuing education activities. Beginning in 2013, ACPE-accredited providers will only report a pharmacist’s successful completion of continuing education activities to CPE Monitor and certificates of completion will no longer be issued to pharmacists by those providers. The pharmacist may review his or her record of completed continuing education activities by logging into the pharmacist’s CPE Monitor profile, and the Board will be able to verify a pharmacist’s successful completion of traditional ACPE-accredited provider continuing education activities by checking the pharmacist’s record with CPE Monitor. The amendments also clarify the recording and reporting requirements for non-ACPE provider activities that are not compatible with CPE Monitor.

The amendments provide pharmacists with the option to complete and submit a continuing professional development (CPD) portfolio to fulfill the continuing education requirements for license renewal or license reactivation. Rule 657—2.17(272C) establishes the requirements for a CPD portfolio including the required content of the portfolio and the process for declaring to the Board the pharmacist’s intention to complete and submit a CPD portfolio, identifies a prerequisite for a pharmacist’s participation in and submission of a CPD portfolio, and asserts the Board’s intention to review and respond to pharmacists who submit CPD portfolios.

Requests for waiver or variance of the discretionary provisions of these rules will be considered pursuant to 657—Chapter 34.

Notice of Intended Action was published in the December 12, 2012, Iowa Administrative Bulletin as **ARC 0511C**. The Board received no written comments regarding the proposed amendments. The adopted amendments are identical to those published under Notice.

The amendments were approved during the January 16, 2013, meeting of the Board of Pharmacy.

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 147.10, 147.11, 272C.2, and 272C.3.

These amendments will become effective on March 13, 2013.

The following amendments are adopted.

ITEM 1. Amend rule 657—2.12(272C) as follows:

657—2.12(272C) Continuing education requirements. Pharmacists shall complete continuing education for license renewal pursuant to the requirements of this rule. For purposes of this rule, “continuing education” means a structured educational activity that is applicable to the practice of pharmacy, that promotes problem solving and critical thinking, and that is designed or intended to support the continuing development of pharmacists to maintain and enhance their competence in the practice of pharmacy. Nothing in these rules precludes the board from requiring an applicant for renewal to submit to a relicensure examination.

2.12(1) Continuing education unit required. The nationally accepted measurement of continuing education is referred to as CEU (continuing education unit), and the board employs that measurement. Ten contact hours of approved continuing education are equivalent to one CEU.

a. The board will require 3.0 CEUs each renewal period except as provided in subrule 2.12(5) or rule 657—2.17(272C). For purposes of this rule, “renewal period” means the 27-month period

commencing April 1 prior to the previous license expiration and ending June 30, the date of current license expiration.

b. A pharmacist who fails to complete the required CEUs within the renewal period shall be required to complete one and one-half times the number of delinquent CEUs prior to reactivation of the license.

c. CEUs that are used to satisfy the continuing education requirement for one renewal period shall not be used to satisfy the requirement for a subsequent renewal period.

d. Failure to receive a license renewal application or notice of license renewal shall not relieve the pharmacist of the responsibility of meeting continuing education requirements.

~~2.12(1)~~ 2.12(2) Continuing education activity ~~attendance~~ completion. Continuing education activities that carry the seal of an Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)-accredited provider will automatically qualify for continuing education credit. Attendance Successful completion and record of continuing education activities in CPE Monitor is mandated in order for a pharmacist to receive credit unless the activity is an ACPE-accredited correspondence course for ACPE-accredited provider continuing education activities.

a. Non-ACPE provider activity. A maximum of 1.3 CEUs (13 contact hours) of the total 3.0 CEUs of continuing education credits required pursuant to subrule 2.12(4) may be obtained through completion of non-ACPE provider activities if such activities are provided by an accredited health-professional continuing education provider, such as a continuing medical education (CME) provider, and if the activity content directly relates to the pharmacist's professional practice. Non-ACPE provider activity completion shall be recorded, evaluated, and reported pursuant to the provisions of rule 657—2.17(272C) regarding continuing professional development.

(1) The pharmacist is responsible for ensuring that the activity content directly relates to the pharmacist's professional practice.

(2) ~~In addition, if~~ If one or more non-ACPE provider activities are intended to fulfill the requirement in paragraph 2.12(4) "c," the pharmacist is responsible for ensuring the activity content relates to patient or medication safety.

(3) If the non-ACPE provider is not able to transmit the activity record to CPE Monitor, the provider shall provide to the pharmacist a statement of credit that indicates the pharmacist's participation in and successful completion of the continuing education activity. The statement of credit shall include all information identified in subrule 2.12(3), except for the pharmacist's CPE Monitor e-profile identification number.

b. Exemption for health-related graduate studies. A pharmacist who is continuing formal education in a health-related graduate ~~programs~~ program, including participation in a pharmacy residency program, may be exempted from meeting the continuing education requirements during the period of such enrollment or participation. As an alternative to requesting exemption from meeting the continuing education requirements, the pharmacist may complete a CPD portfolio pursuant to rule 657—2.17(272C).

(1) An applicant for this exemption shall petition the board, as soon as possible following enrollment in the qualifying graduate program or commencement of the pharmacy residency program and prior to completion of the qualifying program, on forms provided by the board office.

(2) At the discretion of the board, exemption during part-time or short-term enrollment in a health-related graduate program may be prorated for the actual period of such enrollment.

~~2.12(2) Continuing education unit required.~~ The nationally accepted measurement of continuing education is referred to as CEU (continuing education unit), and the board of pharmacy employs that measurement. Ten contact hours of approved continuing education are equivalent to one CEU. The board of pharmacy will require 3.0 CEUs each renewal period. For purposes of this rule, "renewal period" means the 27-month period commencing April 1 prior to the previous license expiration and ending June 30, the date of current license expiration. A pharmacist who fails to complete the required CEUs within the renewal period shall be required to complete one and one-half times the number of delinquent CEUs prior to reactivation of the license. CEUs that are used to satisfy the continuing education requirement for one renewal period shall not be used to satisfy the requirement for a subsequent renewal period.

2.12(3) Continuing education activity ~~statement~~ record of credit.

~~a.~~ An ~~accredited~~ ACPE-accredited provider will be required to ~~make available to~~ transmit to CPE Monitor information regarding an individual pharmacist a statement of credit that indicates pharmacist's participation in and successful completion of ~~and participation in~~ a continuing education activity. The ~~statement of credit will carry~~ record shall be accessible to the board and shall include the following information:

- (1) ~~a.~~ Pharmacist's full name and CPE Monitor e-profile identification number.
- (2) ~~b.~~ Number of contact hours or CEUs awarded for activity completion.
- (3) ~~c.~~ Date of live activity or date of completion of home study activity.
- (4) ~~d.~~ Name of accredited provider.
- (5) ~~e.~~ Activity title and universal activity number.

~~b.~~ A pharmacist must retain statements of credit in the pharmacist's personal files for four years.

2.12(4) Continuing education activity topics. Each pharmacist is required to obtain continuing education by completing activities in the topics specified in this subrule.

a. Drug therapy. A minimum of 1.5 CEUs (15 contact hours) of the pharmacist's required 3.0 CEUs shall be in ACPE-accredited provider activities dealing with drug therapy. Activities qualifying for the drug therapy requirement will include the ACPE topic designator "01" or "02" ~~in the last two digits followed by the letter "P" at the end of the universal activity number.~~

b. Pharmacy law. A minimum of 0.2 CEUs (2 contact hours) of the pharmacist's required 3.0 CEUs shall be in ACPE-accredited provider activities dealing with pharmacy law. Activities qualifying for the pharmacy law requirement will include the ACPE topic designator "03" ~~in the last two digits followed by the letter "P" at the end of the universal activity number.~~

c. Patient or medication safety. A minimum of 0.2 CEUs (2 contact hours) of the pharmacist's required 3.0 CEUs shall be in activities dealing with patient or medication safety. Activities completed to fulfill this requirement may be ACPE-accredited provider activities, in which case the last two digits of the universal activity number will ~~include end with the ACPE topic designator "05;" or followed by the letter "P."~~ A pharmacist may complete non-ACPE provider activities as provided in subrule 2.12(1) paragraph 2.12(2) "a" to fulfill this topic requirement.

2.12(5) New license holders licensed by examination. After the initial license is issued by examination, the new license holder is exempt from meeting continuing education requirements for the first license renewal. However, if the licensee qualifies as a mandatory abuse reporter, the licensee shall not be exempt from mandatory training for identifying and reporting abuse pursuant to rule 657—2.16(235B,272C). Regardless of when the license is first issued, the new license holder will be required to obtain, prior to the second renewal, 30 contact hours (3.0 CEUs) of continuing education pursuant to subrules 2.12(1) through 2.12(4) or to complete a CPD portfolio pursuant to rule 657—2.17(272C).

2.12(6) New license holders licensed by license transfer/reciprocity. After the initial license is issued by license transfer, the new license holder will be required to obtain, prior to the first license renewal, 30 contact hours (3.0 CEUs) of continuing education credits pursuant to subrules 2.12(1) through 2.12(4) or to complete a CPD portfolio pursuant to rule 657—2.17(272C).

2.12(7) Reporting continuing education credits.

a. A pharmacist shall ~~submit on or with the renewal application form documentation that the continuing education requirements have been met. Documentation shall be in a format that includes the following:~~ provide or report to the board, in the format specified on or with the pharmacist license renewal application, evidence that the continuing education requirements have been met.

- (1) ~~The total number of credits accumulated for the renewal period;~~
- (2) ~~The individual activities completed, including activity title and universal activity number;~~
- (3) ~~The dates of completion;~~
- (4) ~~The credits awarded for each activity;~~
- (5) ~~The name of the provider of each activity; and~~
- (6) ~~Identification of the activities completed to comply with the drug therapy requirements in subrule 2.12(4).~~

b. The board may require a pharmacist to submit the activity statements of credit that document or other documented evidence of successful completion of the activities included with or on the renewal application reported as fulfilling the continuing education requirements.

c. ~~Failure to receive the renewal application shall not relieve the pharmacist of the responsibility of meeting continuing education requirements.~~

~~2.12(8) Relicensure examination.~~ Nothing in these rules precludes the board from requiring an applicant for renewal to submit to a relicensure examination.

~~2.12(9)~~ **2.12(8) Physical disability or illness.** The board may, in individual cases involving physical disability or illness, grant waivers of the minimum continuing education requirements or extensions of time within which to fulfill the same or make the required reports. No waiver or extension of time shall be granted unless written application is made and signed by the licensee and the licensee's physician. The board may grant waivers of the minimum continuing education requirements for physical disability or illness for any period of time not to exceed one renewal period. In the event that the physical disability or illness upon which a waiver has been granted continues beyond the period of the waiver, the licensee must reapply for an extension of the waiver. The board may, as a condition of any waiver granted, require the licensee to make up all or any portion of the waived continuing education requirements by any method prescribed by the board.

ITEM 2. Amend rule 657—2.13(272C) as follows:

657—2.13(272C) Active and inactive license status.

2.13(1) Active license. Active license status applies to a pharmacist who has submitted the renewal application and fee and has met Iowa requirements for continuing education or has completed a CPD portfolio pursuant to rule 657—2.17(272C). Active license status also applies to a pharmacist who has submitted the renewal application and fee and who is a resident of another state, is licensed to practice pharmacy in that state, and has met the continuing education requirements of that state. A pharmacist who meets the continuing education requirements of another state shall provide documentation on the renewal application of the pharmacist's license status in that state. An Iowa licensee actively practicing in a state that does not require continuing education for license renewal shall be required to meet Iowa continuing education or CPD requirements.

2.13(2) Inactive license. Failure of a pharmacist to comply with the continuing education or CPD requirements during the renewal period ~~will~~ shall result in the issuance of a renewal card marked "inactive" upon submission of the renewal application and fee. Reactivation of an inactive pharmacist license shall be accomplished by the appropriate method described below. Internship, in each instance where internship is mentioned below, shall be in a pharmacy approved by the board. The pharmacist ~~will~~ may be required to obtain a pharmacist-intern registration, including payment of the appropriate registration fee, and be issued an intern registration certificate.

a. An inactive pharmacist who wishes to become active and who has been actively practicing pharmacy during the last five years in any state or states which required continuing education during that five-year period shall submit proof of continued licensure in good standing in the state or states of such practice.

b. An inactive pharmacist who wishes to become active and who has been actively practicing pharmacy during the last five years in a state which does not require continuing education shall submit proof of continued licensure in good standing in the state or states of such practice. The pharmacist shall also complete one of the following options:

- (1) Take and successfully pass the MPJE, Iowa Edition, as provided in subrule 2.1(1);
- (2) Complete 160 hours of internship for each year the pharmacist was on inactive status (not to exceed 1,000 hours); ~~or~~
- (3) Obtain one and one-half times the number of continuing education credits required under ~~2.12(2)~~ subrule 2.12(1) for each renewal period the pharmacist was inactive; ~~or~~
- (4) Complete a CPD portfolio pursuant to rule 657—2.17(272C) identifying a minimum of 45 learning outcomes for each renewal period the pharmacist was inactive.

c. An inactive pharmacist who wishes to become active and who has not been actively practicing pharmacy during the past five years, and whose license has been inactive for not more than five years, shall complete one of the following options:

(1) Successfully pass all components of the licensure examination as required in rule 657—2.1(147,155A);

(2) Complete 160 hours of internship for each year the pharmacist was on inactive status; ~~or~~

(3) Obtain one and one-half times the number of continuing education credits required under 2.12(2) subrule 2.12(1) for each renewal period the pharmacist was inactive; or

(4) Complete a CPD portfolio pursuant to rule 657—2.17(272C) identifying a minimum of 45 learning outcomes for each renewal period the pharmacist was inactive.

d. An inactive pharmacist who wishes to become active and who has not been actively practicing pharmacy for more than five years shall petition the board for reactivation of the license to practice pharmacy under one or more of the following options:

(1) Successfully pass all components of the licensure examination as required in rule 657—2.1(147,155A);

(2) Complete 160 hours of internship for each year the pharmacist was on inactive status (not to exceed 1,000 hours); ~~or~~

(3) Obtain one and one-half times the number of continuing education credits required under 2.12(2) subrule 2.12(1) for each renewal period the pharmacist was inactive; or

(4) Complete a CPD portfolio pursuant to rule 657—2.17(272C) identifying a minimum of 45 learning outcomes for each renewal period the pharmacist was inactive.

ITEM 3. Adopt the following **new** rule 657—2.17(272C):

657—2.17(272C) Continuing professional development portfolio. A pharmacist may complete and submit with the pharmacist's license renewal a continuing professional development (CPD) portfolio to fulfill the continuing education requirements in rule 657—2.12(272C). For purposes of these rules, "CPD" means a self-directed, ongoing, systematic, and outcomes-focused approach to learning and professional development including active participation in learning activities that assist a pharmacist in developing and maintaining continuing competence in the practice of pharmacy, enhancing the pharmacist's professional practice, and supporting achievement of the pharmacist's career goals. Definitions and descriptions of the terms "continuing education," "CEU," and "renewal period" included in rule 657—2.12(272C) shall apply to those terms as used in this rule.

2.17(1) Declaration of intent. A pharmacist shall declare on or with the previous license renewal, or shall notify the board no later than January 1 of the year the pharmacist's license is scheduled for renewal, of the pharmacist's intent to complete a CPD portfolio for the next license renewal.

a. The pharmacist's declaration of intent shall be in writing. Oral declaration of intent to complete a CPD portfolio will not be accepted.

b. A declaration of intent may be delivered to the board office via e-mail, facsimile transmission, or alternate hard-copy delivery.

2.17(2) Prerequisite. A pharmacist, prior to submitting the pharmacist's initial CPD portfolio, shall complete an ACPE-accredited provider activity regarding the objectives and processes relating to CPD. Record of the pharmacist's participation in this prerequisite activity shall be included in the pharmacist's initial CPD portfolio.

2.17(3) CPD portfolio requirements. A pharmacist shall combine traditional continuing education activities with professional development activities. The pharmacist shall incorporate the record of completion and evaluation of any traditional continuing education activities into the CPD portfolio.

a. The pharmacist is responsible for ensuring that the activity content identified in the CPD portfolio directly relates to the pharmacist's professional practice and career goals.

b. The pharmacist is responsible for ensuring that the activities identified in the CPD portfolio comply with the continuing education topic requirements identified in subrules 2.12(4) and 2.17(4).

2.17(4) CPD portfolio content. In addition to the record of completion of the one-time prerequisite activity identified in subrule 2.17(2), a completed CPD portfolio shall include or identify the following:

a. A minimum of 30 documented learning outcomes in the form of completed learning statements. The learning statement form or format shall be provided by the board.

b. Documented learning outcomes shall include a minimum of two outcomes relating to patient or medication safety, two outcomes relating to pharmacy law, and 15 outcomes relating to drug therapy.

c. Documented learning outcomes shall include any number of continuing education activities that carry the seal of an ACPE-accredited provider. Successful completion and record of these continuing education activities in CPE Monitor as provided in subrule 2.12(2), in addition to the documented CPD learning outcomes, is required for the pharmacist to receive credit for these activities.

d. Documented learning outcomes shall include any continuing education activities provided by non-ACPE, accredited, health-professional continuing education providers pursuant to subrule 2.12(2).

2.17(5) *CPD portfolio review.* The board shall review or may contract for peer review of CPD portfolios submitted for pharmacist license renewal. The board shall respond to a submitting pharmacist with comments, suggestions, and recommendations regarding the pharmacist's CPD portfolio and processes.

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